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Letter dated 23 June 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Eritrea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to recall my letter dated 14 June 2016 (S/2016/569), in which I notified the Security Council of the military aggression committed by the Ethiopian government against Eritrea in the Tsorona area on the morning of 12 June 2016 and requested an urgent meeting of the Council, in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations. Encouraged by the silence of the Council with regard to its unlawful act, the Ethiopian government is making preparations for a major military offensive and is contemplating a full-scale war of aggression against my country, Eritrea.

The publicly declared belligerent policy of Ethiopia towards Eritrea and its prevailing occupation of sovereign Eritrean territory, including the town of Badme, is a threat to regional and international peace and security in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea region. It is also a violation of international law and the Charter that needs the urgent attention of the Security Council. Prevention is appropriate and cheaper than crisis management.

Once again, I would like to request an urgent meeting of the Security Council, in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter. I also have the honour to request, in accordance with rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council, that a representative of the Government of Eritrea be allowed to participate in and make statement at the meeting.

Attached are three press releases from the Eritrean Ministry of Information on the belligerent acts of Ethiopia.*

I would be most grateful if the present letter could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and circulated as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Girma Asmerom Tesfay
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* On file with Secretariat.

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